



July 2006

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## Legislative Update

### Introduced

- As of May 30, there are designation bills introduced on 20 areas and study bills introduced on eight areas. For a list of the bills currently introduced, visit <http://www.cr.nps.gov/heritageareas/LEG/introbills109.pdf>



### Heard

- On June 22, the Senate Subcommittee on National Parks, chaired by Senator Thomas, held a hearing on a number of National Heritage Area reauthorization and designation bills:

- **S. 574**, to amend the **Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor Act of 1994** to increase the authorization of appropriations and modify the date on which the authority of the Secretary of the Interior terminates under the Act.
- **S. 1387**, to provide for an update of the Cultural Heritage and Land Management Plan for the **John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission**, to extend the authority of the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley Heritage Corridor Commission, to authorize the undertaking of a special resource study of sites and landscape features within the Corridor, and to authorize additional appropriations for the Corridor.
- **S. 1721**, to amend the **Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996** to extend the authorization for certain national heritage areas and to designate the Mississippi River National Heritage Area.
- **S. 2037**, to establish the **Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area** in the State of Colorado.
- **S. 2645**, to establish the **Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area** in the states of Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania.

## News from the Heritage Areas

-The **Augusta Canal National Heritage Area** was one of ten finalists for National Honors from the History Channel's "Save Our History" program for its education project *History is Fantastic*. Fourth and fifth graders interviewed older Augustans about their memories of an old local custom called *The Fantastics*, when children in neighborhoods near the Augusta Canal

dressed in homemade costumes and “dough faces” and promenaded down the streets on July 4. To rekindle the spirit of Augusta’s *Fantastics*, students created their own masks and costumes and held their own neighborhood parade on April 21, 2006. Four students, a teacher and Augusta Canal NHA’s coordinator for the project traveled to Washington, DC to participate in a two-day honors event, climaxed by an awards luncheon hosted and emceed by Cokie Roberts at the Historical Society of Washington, DC museum. To learn more about the Augusta Canal National Heritage Area, visit <http://www.augustacanal.com>.

-The **Augusta Canal National Heritage Area** also makes news with a feature cover on the Augusta-Harlem edition of The Real Yellow Pages beginning June 21. The Augusta area’s leading yellow pages directory from BellSouth will deliver approximately 400,000 directories to area residents and businesses over the next year. The Augusta Canal held a reception on Monday, June 19 to recognize the new directory. Senator Ed Tarver, Augusta Canal Authority Chairman Robert Woodhurst, other local officials and BellSouth leaders were present. Please call **Rebecca Rogers** with the Augusta Canal NHA at **(706) 823-0440** for more information.



-The **Essex National Heritage Area** marked its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary with *Essentially Essex County*, an evening of celebration in honor of the special places and people of the Essex NHA. The event featured Senator Edward M. Kennedy—instrumental in sponsoring the legislation that created the Essex NHA—as keynote speaker. During the event, the Essex National Heritage Commission (ENHC) announced the winners of its *10 Years, 100 Milestones in Heritage Development* initiative, recognizing people, places and organizations that worked toward preserving and developing Area resources to foster an appreciation of regional heritage. Milestones were designated in the following categories: Arts/Culture; Heritage Business; Heritage Development; Heritage Education/Outreach; Heritage Heroes; Historic Records; Sustainable Agriculture; Heritage Preservation; Natural Resource Preservation; and Recreational Trails. *Essentially Essex County* is part of an ENHC programs and events series running through November, 2006 to mark the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of the Essex NHA. To learn more about the Essex NHA, visit <http://www.essexheritage.org>.

-The **Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area** has seen significant progress in 2006 on three major projects in Yuma. Yuma's riverfront developer announced the construction of a 150-room Hilton Garden Inn and Conference Center. It is being designed to be compatible with the National Historic Landmark in which it sits. An adjacent riverfront park, Gateway Park, is under construction at a cost of \$4.4 million. Thirdly, restoration in the Yuma East Wetlands continues with the excavation of the 1.5 mile long South Channel and the planting of 20,000 in 2006. To learn more about the Yuma Crossing NHA, visit <http://www.yumaheritage.com>.

-The **Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area** partnered with The History Channel and Adelphia to produce and host the April 4 world premiere of the documentary *The Homestead Strike*. During the course of the one-hour documentary’s production and filming, Rivers of Steel NHA served as a consultant for research materials, historic photos, and filming locations. *The Homestead Strike* was created as part of The History Channel’s new series, *10 Days That Unexpectedly Changed America*, focusing on historic events that triggered shifts in America’s political, cultural or social landscape. The 1892 Battle of Homestead—a battle fought between management and labor on July 6 in 1892 at the Pump House, located on the site of the former Homestead Works (owned and operated by Rivers of Steel)—was chosen as a pivotal event in American labor history, signaling a shift from workers’ beliefs in ownership over their jobs to

an emerging corporate culture that viewed labor as a commodity. To learn more about the Rivers of Steel NHA, visit <http://www.riversofsteel.com>.

-The **Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area** hosts a variety of events and activities. Some events occurring in July include: *Discovering a Sense of Place* and the ongoing *Evening Leg Stretches* at the Indian Creek Nature Center in Cedar Rapids; *Norwegian Faith, Norwegian Culture* and *A Culinary Delight with Chef Sven Erik Renaa* at the Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum in Decorah; *Motor Mill Open Weekends*, at the Motor Mill Historic Site in Elkader; and, *Friday Focus* and *Museum Mornings* at the UNI Museum in Cedar Falls. For more information on these and other events, and to learn more about the Silos & Smokestacks NHA, visit <http://silosandsmokestacks.org>.

- The **Aviation Heritage Foundation, Inc. (AHF)** continues to carry out its vision to make Dayton Ohio the “global center of aviation heritage.” Most know of the Wright brothers’ flights in the United States; the story of the Wright brothers as inventors of the airplane continued as they crossed the Atlantic to the cities of LeMans and Pau France. Over the next 3 years a sharing of resources and stories will occur between the aviation heritage organizations of the **National Aviation Heritage Area** and similar groups in LeMans and Pau. Recently, the first of those exchanges took place with the arrival of the “Very Large Book” exhibit produced by Dan Patterson (renowned aviation photographer and trustee of the Aviation Heritage Foundation, Inc.) showing historic Wright flights along with other French aviation activities. The exhibit was displayed at the annual air show in Pau France. Amanda Wright Lane, great grand-niece of Wilbur and Orville Wright and trustee of the AHF was on hand to open the exhibit and air show. To learn more about the National Aviation Heritage Area, visit <http://www.birthplaceofaviation.com>.



-The **Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area** is partnering with the Mississippi River Natural and Recreational Corridor, one of West Tennessee’s most exciting heritage development projects. The project aims to conserve and interpret the river and bluffs, while developing the region’s outstanding historical, recreational and cultural opportunities to stimulate economic development and sustainable tourism.

At its annual Heritage Day Festival, the Granville Museum held a grand opening for “At the Crossroads: The Civil War in Granville.” Designed and created by the TCWNHA, the new exhibit details local experiences within the larger context of wartime Tennessee.

At the request of Senator Lamar Alexander, Congressman John Duncan, and the Smoky Mountains Convention and Visitors Bureau, the TCWNHA evaluated nationally significant historic, natural and cultural resources in East Tennessee’s Blount County. Within the context of the county’s public, financial and managerial support, the TCWNHA created a feasibility study that outlined sustainable growth and tourism strategies, program options and funding. To learn more about the Tennessee Civil War NHA, visit <http://histpres.mtsu.edu/tncivwar/>.

-The Lackawanna Valley of the **Lackawanna Heritage Valley National Heritage Area** (LHVA) has, since its inception in 1820, grown from a frontier town into a powerful engine of America’s Industrial Revolution. Located in the watershed of the Lackawanna River in Northeastern Pennsylvania and peopled by immigrants who worked in the coal, railroad, iron, steel, and textile industries, the Lackawanna Valley created a melting pot of hard-working, culturally diverse people.

Today, the LHVA has undertaken a new project to inform a mass audience of the heritage left by their ancestors. "Views from the Lackawanna Valley," LHVA's public access cable show highlights area attractions and brings the important cultural, industrial, and environmental heritage into the homes of area residents. Led by Executive Director Natalie Solfanelli, viewers can tour the valley, meet with local legislators, visit LHVA partner sites, and learn about the important heritage of the Lackawanna Valley. To learn more about the Lackawanna Heritage Valley National Heritage Area, visit <http://www.lhva.org>.

## News from the Alliance of National Heritage Areas (ANHA)

-The **Alliance of National Heritage Areas** continues to seek proposals for the upcoming 2007 **International Heritage Development Conference**, June 18-21, 2007 in Detroit, Michigan. MotorCities National Heritage Area is hosting the event, which will include mobile workshops, international and nationally-known speakers, and interactive educational sessions, and plenty of opportunities to network with heritage development professionals. To view selection criteria for session proposals and to download a proposal form, visit [http://www.nationalheritageareas.org/2007\\_conference.htm](http://www.nationalheritageareas.org/2007_conference.htm)



### -New ANHA Economic Impact Study Available

An important element of the work of National Heritage Areas is to draw in visitors to heritage sites, facilities, and other attractions. In 2005, five National Heritage Areas—Augusta Canal NHA in Georgia, the Delaware and Lehigh NHA and the Lackawanna Heritage Valley in Pennsylvania, and the Essex NHA in Massachusetts and the National Coal Heritage Area in West Virginia—participated in a study to assess the characteristics of the visitors to their sites and estimate the impact of these visitors on the local economies.

These five heritage areas alone attracted more than 5.5 million tourists in 2005. An estimated 68.3 million visitors visited the entire 27 National Heritage Areas in the same year. The impact of this tourism activity is significant to the local economies of each region. ANHA has recently published the findings of that study and copies may be purchased [\$1.50 per copy] by e-mailing your name, mailing address, and number of copies requested to [anha.cosgrove@adelphia.net](mailto:anha.cosgrove@adelphia.net)

### -Coming Soon: New ANHA website

The Alliance of National Heritage Areas is in the process of redesigning its website. ANHA anticipates presenting the new website in fall 2006. Meanwhile, the current website is an excellent resource. Please visit <http://nationalheritageareas.org> for ANHA news, opportunities and more.

## Conferences and Events

-The **Waterfront Center** of Washington DC will host its 24<sup>th</sup> annual International Conference, *Urban Waterfronts: Celebrating 20 Years of Excellence on the Waterfront*, September 28-30, 2006 at the historic Benson Hotel of Portland, Oregon. The Waterfront Center is a non-profit education and urban planning organization committed "to assist communities and the professions in making the wisest and best long-term uses of waterfront resources for maximum public benefit." The 2006 Int'l Conference focuses on top honor and award-winning projects since 1987, and features 36 speakers from around the world. For more

information on The Waterfront Center, or to register for the conference, visit: [www.waterfrontcenter.org](http://www.waterfrontcenter.org).

-Mark your calendars for September 13-16, 2006, when the **American Association for State and Local History (AASLH)** holds its annual meeting in Phoenix, Arizona, with the theme of "History's Enduring Voices." The keynote speaker will be Peterson Zah, Special Advisor to the President of Arizona State University on American Indian Affairs and the first elected president of the Navajo Nation from 1990-1994. For more information, visit <http://www.aaslh.org/anmeeting.htm>.

-The **Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor** is proud to host the 2006 World Canals Conference *Industry to Recreation: Greening the Coal Canals* in Bethlehem, PA, September 12-14 2006. For information or to register for the conference, visit <http://www.canals.org/wcc/>.

## Publications and Resources



-The **Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor** report and executive summary, *Connecting Stories, Landscapes, and People: Exploring the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor Partnership. A Technical Assistance Project for the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor Commission and the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, Inc. 2006*, are up on the Conservation Study Institute (CSI) website at [http://www.nps.gov/csi/pub\\_resources/pub.htm](http://www.nps.gov/csi/pub_resources/pub.htm).

-Coming soon: the **National Register of Historic Places'** Ohio and Erie Canal travel itinerary is nearly complete, and will be officially launched at the end of the first week of July. Access will be available via this link: <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/travel/ohioeriecanal/>. For more information, contact [shannon\\_davis@contractor.nps.gov](mailto:shannon_davis@contractor.nps.gov).

-Coming soon: In collaboration with the National Geographic Society, the **National Park System Advisory Board** announces the upcoming July release of *Charting a Future for National Heritage Areas: a Report by the National Park System Advisory Board*. A link to the electronic version of the Report will be provided in the August issue of the NHA E-bulletin.

Coming Soon: After a hiatus, **Partners in Tourism** is bringing back the popular quarterly newsletter, *Cultural Heritage Tourism News*. The summer 2006 issue will be available soon as a downloadable electronic newsletter at [www.culturalheritagetourism.org](http://www.culturalheritagetourism.org). This coming issue includes new research on visitation at historic house museums, an update on the Civic Tourism conference that took place in Prescott, Arizona in April, cultural heritage tourism updates from federal and state programs and much more.

## Other news

-**Wally Brittain**, who managed National Heritage Areas for the National Park Service in the Southeast, retired on June 3. Chris Abbett is the temporary contact for NHAs in the SE and can be reached at [chris\\_abbett@nps.gov](mailto:chris_abbett@nps.gov).



- The **Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor offices'** addresses have changed. The current addresses are: new Easton Office-- 2750 Hugh Moore Park Rd, Easton, PA, 18042; 610-923-3548; and the Slatington Office moved to--Lehighton Borough Annex, 110 North Third St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Room 220, Lehighton, PA 18235; 610-377-4063. Please add/change these addresses in your files.

-On June 8<sup>th</sup>, the **1906 Antiquities Act** celebrated 100 years. President Theodore Roosevelt was the first president to utilize this Act, which authorized US presidents to designate historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historical or scientific interest situated on US Government land as National Monuments. To commemorate the Act, the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP) moderated *A Forum on the Protection of America's Cultural and Natural Heritage for a Second Century* at the Navy Memorial Museum in Washington DC. The event included a keynote address given by Richard Moe, NTHP President, remarks from Theodore Roosevelt IV, presentations from cultural resource professionals and a panel discussion. For more information on the Antiquities Act, 1906-2006, visit <http://www.cr.nps.gov/archeology/SITES/Antiquities/index.htm>.



-The **World Monuments Fund** is now accepting nominations to the 2008 Watch list. Every two years, the World Monuments Fund issues the World Monuments Watch® list of 100 Most Endangered Sites, which calls international attention to cultural heritage sites of all types around the world that are at risk. The **2008 Watch Nomination Form** is available for download from: [www.wmf.org](http://www.wmf.org). Nominations are available in English, French and Spanish. To request that a nomination be sent to you either electronically or by post, please contact [watch@wmf.org](mailto:watch@wmf.org), +1-646-424-9594, ext. 232 (phone), or fax +1-646-424-9593. The deadline for submission of nominations is **January 15, 2007**.

**For more information on heritage areas, visit our [website](#).**

-If you have heritage area news to share with the 650+ readers who receive this e-bulletin, please feel free to send it to the editor.

**Please forward this bulletin to others who may be interested, and encourage them to join our e-bulletin address list.**

- Reach the interim editor at [linnea\\_caproni@partner.nps.gov](mailto:linnea_caproni@partner.nps.gov) [for July/August issues]
- Reach the National Coordinator of Heritage Areas at [Brenda\\_Barrett@nps.gov](mailto:Brenda_Barrett@nps.gov)
- Past issues available at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/heritageareas/rep/bb.htm>
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